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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Dale C. McCarthy

Serial No.: Continuation of
App. Serial No. 09/518,650

Filed: Herewith

Art Unit: 2833

Confirmation No.:

Examiner: E. Leon

Title: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHOD

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 28465

Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Stephanie Warner-Wallace
(Name)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following claim and specification amendments before considering the merits of the claims.

Please replace the third full paragraph which appears on page 5 of the specification, extending from lines 12 to 24, with the following paragraphs:

Once the electrical contact has been made between pin 202 and the center conductor of the coaxial cable, cap 200 can be pushed further into housing section 25C. Pushing cap 200 into housing section 25C can, by action of beveled edge 201 of cap 200 operating on beveled edge 115 of clamping arm(s) 113, push clamping arm(s) 113 toward the coaxial cable causing tips 133 of clamping arms 113 to penetrate and pass through outer insulation layer 15 of coaxial cable 11 and make electrical contact with outer conductor 14 of coaxial cable 11. As shown in Figure 1 (as well as Figures 2-3 and 5-6), the beveled edges are flat or planar surfaces that are parallel to each other. The beveled edges in these embodiments are at the same angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the bore so that when the beveled edges are pressed together they lie flush against each other and slide against each other in a direction parallel to the angle. This results in the clamp end being driven toward the cable.

As cap 200 is pushed further into housing section 25C, protrusion 204 interacts with indentation 208 and/or protrusion 210 interacts with indentation 206. The interaction of protrusion 210 and indentation 206 and/or protrusion 204 and indentation 208 can act to hold cap 20 securely in place inside housing 25. Alternatively, if desired, cap 200 can be separate from the housing and slipped onto the end of the coaxial cable prior to the end of coaxial cable being inserted into housing section 25C. Cap 200 can then be slid down the coaxial cable and pushed into housing section 25C.

Please replace the 3rd and 4th paragraphs (page 2, lines 16-19) with the following paragraph:

Figure 1 shows a specific embodiment of an electrical connector in accordance with the subject invention for use with a coaxial cable type insulated electrical conductor.